

109TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 4067

To reform the program of block grants to States for temporary assistance  
for needy families.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 17, 2005

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ (for herself, Mr. SERRANO, Ms. LEE, Mr. KUCINICH, and Mr. FILNER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

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## A BILL

To reform the program of block grants to States for  
temporary assistance for needy families.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “TANF Recipients’  
5       Lifeline Act”.

6       **SEC. 2. REPEAL OF 5-YEAR LIMIT ON BENEFITS.**

7       (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 408(a) of the Social Secu-  
8       rity Act (42 U.S.C. 608(a)) is amended by striking para-  
9       graph (7).

1 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 409(a) of  
 2 such Act (42 U.S.C. 609(a)) is amended by striking para-  
 3 graph (9).

4 **SEC. 3. EXCEPTION FOR TANF TO 5-YEAR BAN ON BENEFITS**  
 5 **FOR QUALIFIED ALIENS.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 403(c)(2) of the Personal  
 7 Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act  
 8 of 1996 (8 U.S.C. 1613(c)(2)) is amended by adding at  
 9 the end the following:

10 “(M) Benefits under the Temporary As-  
 11 sistance for Needy Families program described  
 12 in section 402(b)(3)(A).”.

13 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 402(b)(2)  
 14 of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Rec-  
 15 onciliation Act of 1996 (8 U.S.C. 1612(b)(2)) is amend-  
 16 ed—

17 (1) in subparagraph (A)(ii) by striking “sub-  
 18 paragraph (C))” and inserting “subparagraphs (A)  
 19 and (C))”; and

20 (2) by striking subparagraph (B).

21 **SEC. 4. REQUIREMENT TO PROVIDE TRANSLATION SERV-**  
 22 **ICES FOR NON-ENGLISH SPEAKERS.**

23 (a) REQUIREMENT.—Section 408(a) of the Social Se-  
 24 curity Act (42 U.S.C. 608(a)) is amended by adding at  
 25 the end the following:

1           “(12) USE OF BILINGUAL PERSONNEL AND  
 2           PRINTED MATERIAL.—A State to which a grant is  
 3           made under section 403 shall use appropriate bilin-  
 4           gual personnel and printed material in the adminis-  
 5           tration of the State program funded under this part  
 6           in those portions of the political subdivisions in the  
 7           State in which a substantial number of recipients of  
 8           assistance under the State program speak a lan-  
 9           guage other than English.”.

10          (b) PENALTY.—Section 409(a) of such Act (42  
 11 U.S.C. 609(a)) is amended by adding at the end the fol-  
 12 lowing:

13           “(15) FAILURE TO USE BILINGUAL PERSONNEL  
 14           AND PRINTED MATERIAL.—If the Secretary deter-  
 15           mines that a State to which a grant is made under  
 16           section 403 for a fiscal year has violated section  
 17           408(a)(12) during the fiscal year, the Secretary  
 18           shall reduce the grant payable to the State under  
 19           section 403(a)(1) for the immediately succeeding fis-  
 20           cal year by an amount equal to 2 percent of the  
 21           State family assistance grant.”.

22 **SEC. 5. INFLATION ADJUSTMENT OF BLOCK GRANT.**

23          (a) EXTENSION OF BLOCK GRANT.—Section  
 24 403(a)(1)(A) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.  
 25 603(a)(1)(A)) is amended by striking “1996” and all that

1 follows through “2002” and inserting “2006 through  
2 2011”.

3 (b) INFLATION ADJUSTMENT.—Section 403(a)(1) of  
4 such Act (42 U.S.C. 603(a)(1)) is amended—

5 (1) by striking subparagraphs (B) and (C) and  
6 inserting the following:

7 “(B) STATE FAMILY ASSISTANCE  
8 GRANT.—The State family assistance grant  
9 payable to a State for a fiscal year specified in  
10 subparagraph (A) shall be—

11 “(i) the amount that bears the same  
12 ratio to the amount specified in subpara-  
13 graph (C) of this paragraph (as in effect  
14 before the date of the enactment of this  
15 subparagraph) as the amount required to  
16 be paid to the State under this paragraph  
17 for fiscal year 2002 (determined without  
18 regard to any reduction pursuant to sec-  
19 tion 409 or 412(a)(1)) bears to the total  
20 amount required to be paid under this  
21 paragraph for fiscal year 2002 (as so de-  
22 termined); multiplied by

23 “(ii) if the fiscal year specified in sub-  
24 paragraph (A) is fiscal year 2007 or a suc-  
25 ceeding fiscal year, 1.00 plus the inflation

percentage (as defined in subparagraph (D) of this paragraph) in effect for the fiscal year specified in subparagraph (A).

“(C) APPROPRIATION.—Out of any money in the Treasury of the United States not otherwise appropriated, there are appropriated for each fiscal year specified in subparagraph (A) such sums as may be necessary for grants under this paragraph for the fiscal year.

“(D) INFLATION PERCENTAGE.—For purposes of subparagraph (B) of this paragraph, the inflation percentage applicable to a fiscal year is the percentage (if any) by which—

“(i) the average of the Consumer Price Index (as defined in section 1(f)(5) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986) for the 12-month period ending on September 30 of the immediately preceding fiscal year; exceeds

“(ii) the average of the Consumer Price Index (as so defined) for the 12-month period ending on September 30, 2005.”.

1 **SEC. 6. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

2       The amendments made by this Act shall take effect  
3 on October 1, 2005.

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